

VIA ECFS

March 7, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554
Attn: Wireline Competition Bureau

**Re: WC Docket No. 10-90
Rural Broadband Experiment Expression of Interest – Rate-of-Return Areas
Turtle Mountain Communications, Inc.**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Turtle Mountain Communications, Inc. (“Turtle Mountain”) hereby expresses interest in participating in the Commission’s rural broadband experiments to provide robust, scalable high-speed broadband to unserved high-cost areas with additional Connect America funding.¹ Turtle Mountain is a rate-of-return incumbent local exchange carrier serving rural areas of North Dakota, and proposes deployment as follows.

Proposed Service Area

Turtle Mountain proposes to build out broadband to 61 unserved premises within the regulated service territory.

Proposed Broadband Service

Voice and Broadband services with broadband transmission speeds of up to 100 Mbps downstream/100 Mbps upstream provided over fiber-to-the-home.

Funding

Turtle Mountain requests \$400,000 from the Connect America Fund in one-time funding and will fund the remaining capital and ongoing expenses to operate the system.

Turtle Mountain expects service to be offered to all unserved customers within one year after construction starts.

¹ See *Technology Transitions et al.*, GN Docket No. 13-5 et al., Order, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposal for Ongoing Data Initiative, FCC 14-5 (rel. Jan. 31, 2014).



www.utma.com
customerservice@utma.com

701.256.5156
800.844.9708

411 7th Avenue, P.O. Box 729
Langdon, ND 58249



Turtle Mountain appreciates the opportunity to provide this non-binding expression of interest.
Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Perry Oster', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Perry Oster, General Manager
Turtle Mountain Communications, Inc.